

## LIQUOR LAW AIDS SOCIAL GANGSTER IN LURING GIRLS

Committee of Fourteen Members Want City to Stop Tea Dances.

### MRS. KELLY'S ACTION WINS COMMENDATION

Drinking and Styles of Dress Blamed—Mrs. Moskowitz Warns Mothers.

"Social gangsters" and law enforcement men are the part of the present city administration are responsible for the depraved atmosphere in New York's amusement centers, exemplified by the case of Eugenia Kelly, according to an analysis of the situation by two of New York's leading social critics.

It is a situation that came up for formal discussion yesterday afternoon among several of the members of the Committee of Fourteen, in the headquarters of the organization in East Twenty-second Street.

Mrs. Henry Moskowitz, formerly Mrs. Charles Moskowitz, a member of the committee and also head of the Committee on Amusement Resources for Working Girls, was present. She told last night of the rise of the breed of parasites infesting the New York cabaret and dance life. Walter G. Hoek, executive secretary of the committee, discussed the liberality of the Mitchell administration in enforcing the excise laws.

Tribute to Mrs. Kelly.

"I admire Mrs. Kelly for what she has done," Mrs. Moskowitz said. "It took great courage on her part to take the stand she did in regard to her daughter. Many are going for her own daughter, and for the daughters of others as well to bring this matter to an issue now."

"The men who are frequenting the afternoon tea dances and the cabaret restaurants at night are simply an old manifestation of the lower East Side gangsters. They are doing the same things in another way—depraving young women and living as parasites. They used to give 'trucks' in the East Side, live by extortion and by murder."

"The police have stopped that mostly, and the most police of the gangsters have come uptown. They are social gangsters now, but they are just as vicious as ever; even more so, if possible."

"I feel that the city ought to put an absolute stop to the afternoon tea dances, as was done in Chicago. They are worse than the night life in their influence on young women. They are more insidious. They are ruining Broadway life."

"A lot of young girls and married women are frequenting them. The girls use any device to deceive their mothers so that they can get out to these places; the young married women are doing the same thing with their husbands. Many women have paid their husbands to go with them to these resorts, who dance nicely and look well, to take them around this way."

"Morally, New York is headed for a big catastrophe. It is the same old story—we never get needed. The thing until there is a fire. The thing for the city is not to wait, but to act now, to abolish these places now. Life cannot be decent on Broadway under present conditions."

"Restaurants should be made to be theatres, ballrooms to be ballrooms. The cabarets and dances should be driven out of the restaurants. I am going to stop until I get the tea dances abolished."

Walter G. Hoek, executive secretary of the committee, said that in his belief the general conditions in the city are improving. But the fact remains, he said, that there is still a too easy attitude by the city government toward liquor laws.

"The unfortunate thing about a too liberal excise law enforcement," he said, "is that the impression goes out in the underworld that the town is opening up. The present situation has brought out the swarm of crooks the city has driven away after the Rosenthal shooting. They infest Broadway and the cafes of the side streets, and robberies and holdups are frequent."

"As an instance, only a short while ago the Committee of Fourteen discovered in a Broadway cafe a crowd of gangsters that in the last three years have driven out of five saloons all the way from the lower East Side to the Bronx and down the West Side."

"The situation disclosed by the Kelly girl incident is largely due to the present dance craze and the opportunity of promiscuous acquaintances made under apparently respectable conditions."

Mothers Get Blame.

The mothers rest largely upon the mothers of the girls, who care more

for the fashionable appearance of their daughters than for their welfare and morals. A trip along Broadway on a matinee day, or where there are considerable numbers of young girls, would almost make you believe the old-fashioned mother was extinct. The real situation in New York is that while our public morals are constantly improving the private morals of the people seem to be growing steadily worse, perhaps due as much as anything to the fact that drinking is increasing among women and to the prevailing style of dress."

It was pointed out by one familiar with the situation that restaurants such as Rustan's had transferred their hotel licenses to club licenses; this gave them the same privileges as an organization like the Union Club, whereas they were really nothing but public restaurants. Restaurants that failed to get an all-night license, by paying the \$1,200 annual club license, are able to evade the 2 o'clock closing law.

At the Mayor's Bureau of Licenses Commissioner Bell expressed the opinion that there was nothing in the present situation calling for any special action on his part. "I am not a crusader," Mr. Bell said, "but we are trying to improve the tone of places under our jurisdiction. It is, however, largely a police matter. The situation has changed tremendously in the last few years in New York. Where the number of dance places used to be negligible, there are now 700. He then pointed out the flaws in the license laws."

## ORDERS CLEAN-UP OF "TROTTERIES"

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any change in either the policy or the action of the Police Department during the Mayor's absence from town is, of course, absolutely without foundation. The department is proceeding in normal fashion with the administration of the law. I certainly have had no information to the contrary from any responsible source."

Friends of the acting Mayor said that he felt it would be highly improper for him to make any change in conditions in the absence of the Mayor. O'Farrell was not as brief as Mr. McAneny. When he learned that the acting Mayor was looking up his record he called up the Mayor's office and invited Secretary Rousseau to send a man to his office if his history was wanted.

"I understand," said he, "that Mr. McAneny is looking me up at Headquarters and elsewhere. If he wants anything about me let him send a man to my office. All that Headquarters can tell him is that I was retired honorably on a small pension as a result of injuries received in arresting a burglar."

"I know all about what O'Farrell has been doing for the last thirty-five years—more than any one else can hope to know—and I'll tell it to any one Mr. McAneny will send along. You can further tell Mr. McAneny that I am willing to prove everything that The Tribune printed in my name this morning. If he wishes to devote an evening to this thing this week or next, I will be very glad to make the rounds of the Tenderloin and rendezvous with him, and it won't cost him a cent, either."

Will Back Up Statements.

O'Farrell said that he recently took a responsible New York editor through these places, and that he could back up every assertion by many persons of the highest standing in the community. According to O'Farrell, and this was evident in a tour of the Tenderloin yesterday afternoon and last night, many of the best known men and women in the dancing world "have hit the trail."

Al Davis, at last accounts, is still hiding in the Van Cortlandt Hotel; Bonnie Glass was missing; Jimmie Greenberg was among the absent; and Dickie Weiss was not to be seen outside his dainty studio.

Others not mentioned as among those present in the Kelly case were also absent, thanks to the immunity of the city. There are many of these who have things they would not like to be asked to explain, and discretion is the better part of valor, even in the Tenderloin. Some of the dance hall proprietors were inclined last night to think that the closing of the Kelly case meant the passing of the danger that threatened them. O'Farrell did not agree with them.

"This Kelly case cannot but have an effect upon the tango parlors and cabarets and other rendezvous of the fast set in New York. The incident is sure to awaken in the minds of the public a realization of the actual state of affairs, and the publicity given to it will do much to make most of the restaurants, cabarets and ballrooms proprietors, who have been blasphemous night orgies, which last into the morning, particularly on Saturday night, when they break up as early church-goers are on their way to services."

Girls Dance in Pajamas.

"There is one place in New York where the girls have been dancing in loose and ill-fitting pajamas and after they finish their dancing sketch in the center of a semicircle of tables at which the diners are seated, they then retire to the back of the house, and sit with customers and friends, some of whom are parasites for whom they work."

"The managers of most of these places are of Italian origin, either first or second crop, and have been evolved from clothing peddlers and saloonkeepers into restaurant and burlesque managers. The attaches of many of these places are men who were formerly connected with low dives on the East Side that public spirited citizens forced to close."

"I hope that Mr. McAneny will be good enough to make the rounds with me. I'll show him. But he makes a mistake if he thinks that he can use me as a club after the fashion commonly resorted to when a citizen calls attention to any glaring public nuisance."

"Usually when conditions get as bad as they are now, and some honest citizen refers to them, that citizen is usually used to passing the buck. That is to say, the administrators of municipal police endeavor to use the man who refers to these matters as a complainant against police officers, who, like Inspector Hayes, are possibly following instructions to higher up to ignore violations of the law."

"The existing condition of affairs is not up to the members of the committee to say, but it is a part of my complaint intended to make a goat out of any man in uniform who may be selected for that position."

TO OPEN COLLEGE CAMPS

Army in Department of East to Give Military Instruction.

Major General Leonard Wood announced yesterday that student camps for the training of men of educational institutions in military life would be established this summer throughout the territory embraced in the Department of the East, of which he is commander.

The War Department announced this plan some time ago, but difficulties cropped up because of the disapproval of the Controller of the Treasury of the \$5,000 expended last year. These difficulties have been obviated. The students who attend the camps will be able to study military life under the direction of United States Army officers.

## Eugenia Kelly Returns Home with Mother; Gay Friends of Broadway Life Slink Away



Al Davis and his dancing partner, Bonnie Glass. Eugenia Kelly's infatuation for Davis led to her being caught in the swirl of Broadway, and his partner, jealous of the young girl, told her mother what she was doing.

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L. Crocker, informed the court that his firm had withdrawn as counsel for the girl and agreed to an order substituting Mr. Gillespie.

You are the young woman's counsel," asked the court of Gillespie. "If you have anything to say the court will be glad to hear it."

But a man unloading a coal truck near the courthouse interfered. Finally a court officer, sent to bring the teamster before the magistrates, obtained quiet and Mr. Gillespie began.

"Mr. McIntyre and I have had conferences with regard to the various phases of this matter, and in addition to that the young woman, Miss Kelly, called upon me this morning," he said.

"The matter has been very carefully discussed. I can say now for Miss Kelly that she is exceedingly sorry for all that has transpired. I can further assure the court that Miss Kelly and her mother have become reconciled and will go home together. I further wish to assure the court that Miss Kelly gives her assurances there will be no other repetition of these occurrences."

"Then I understand that under those circumstances Mrs. Kelly is ready to withdraw the complaint," said the court.

"Mrs. Kelly desires to take her daughter home and care for her, as she has done in the past," said Mr. McIntyre. "She desires at this time to withdraw the complaint now pending."

"Let Mrs. Kelly take the stand and make that statement."

Mrs. Kelly took the stand and formally withdrew the complaint.

The magistrate then asked Miss Kelly to stand up. She stood looking squarely at Magistrate House, her hands resting lightly on the lawyers' table.

"What I am going to say to you, Miss Kelly," began the magistrate, speaking slowly. "I say out of my heart, because I think I am justified in saying it. In the first place, I want to say that in the appearance of Mr. Gillespie you are represented by a gentleman whom I have known for years. He was a very warm friend of mine and assisted me materially. It is well for you that you have now a representative of this type in court with you today."

Penalty Was Prepared.

"I want to say to you, first, that I think you have been badly advised as to what might have been the result if this case had been completely tried. I am fearful that you have been informed by somebody that if it had resulted in a conviction that you would have been sent to an institution. That is not so."

"If you had been convicted, I should have acted under the law, as I had a right to; that is to say, I should have placed you on probation. But I am glad you realize that a mistake has been made and I am more than glad that you are going to try and live up to your new resolutions."

"You come from one of the best families in the city. I can remember as a young man, that your grandfather stood so high in this community that men when they passed him in the street

lifted their hats out of respect for him. Your father was a high type of man and one of the city's best citizens. I am afraid you have acted unwisely, but I am satisfied that you realize now exactly what you have done."

"The best friend you have got to your mother. Sometimes we may disagree as to what a mother says, but when we think it over calmly we realize all she does is for our interest and benefit. After you think this over carefully, when you get home, you will realize that your mother was guided by the right motives in trying to do what she could to save you."

"I think you will agree with me in the end that she is entitled to a great deal of consideration on your part for bringing you to a realization that you were doing something that was not going to benefit you."

"I am glad you have promised to go back home to your mother. After you have realized this situation, I am sure, I am satisfied no trouble will occur between you and your mother again."

"I want you to feel the court was treating you kindly in trying to get at the facts of the case with the intention, if it became necessary, to do the very best the court could do in your interest. Now, just bear that in mind, please, and realize that after all you

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mother is the best friend you have. Will you do that?"

In a low, but distinct voice, the girl replied: "Yes, your honor."

"I desire also to say," said Mr. Gillespie, "that she wishes to thank you for the consideration you have shown to her."

"I have tried to do the best I could," said the court. "The complaint is dismissed and the young lady is allowed to go with her mother."

Then, for the first time, mother and daughter spoke. Mrs. Kelly putting her arm around the waist of the girl in a half embrace, then through her arm, and together they left the courtroom. In the street they entered a taxicab and were driven to Mrs. Kelly's home, in 116 East Sixty-third Street.

Once in the house, Eugenia broke down. Throwing herself upon her bed, she sobbed hysterically.

Hysterical in Her Home.

"Oh, I wish I was dead," she cried: "I wish I were dead."

Her mother spoke to her, but she continued to cry aloud. Finally a servant entered to fix a clock and she composed herself.

"Mother, my head aches," she said, wiping her eyes, "can't we go for a ride?"

"Certainly, dear, but not that way. You'll have to fix up a bit."

While the girl was preparing for the street her mother talked with a reporter.

"This has been an awful strain," she said, "but I am glad that it is over and that my little girl is home with me again. Thank God for that! I always knew that once she was in New York, she would come to me. Eugenia is not a bad girl; she never was. She just got in with bad people, as many another little girl has, and received bad advice."

"We'll have no quarrels. The past is over. I have nothing to reproach her with. I never shall say a word about what is now past and gone. By-gones are by-gones."

"Just as soon as we can we are going away. I need a rest. So does Eugenia. She may visit her sister for a day or two, but she won't be away from me much. I need her as much as she needs me. I have been a very lonely woman all these months. I need her more than any one who has not passed through what I have can realize. I have lain many sleepless nights in that room waiting for the little girl to come in and kiss me good night. But now it is all over, she's home again, and we are going to be happy."

"Eugenia hasn't been happy, but she's going to be."

"I never intended to have Eugenia sent to an institution. She would not have permitted that. I have gone that far, for, first, the court would have placed her on probation and then she would have been sensible enough to come home."

Court Move a Last Resort.

"I did not rush into this thing blindly. It was only after I found there was no other way of getting the girl clear of that gang long enough to allow her to get her perspective. As a last resort I appealed to Magistrate Corrigan, an old friend of my family, an old friend of my husband's family. Other good friends I saw as well. Court action was the only thing they could advise. I wanted it to be before Mr. Corrigan, but he was not sitting here, and he said we would have to see Mr. House."

"Fred House is a good man and a wise judge," he told me, "see him and trust him."

"That, too, was Mr. McIntyre's advice. Both he and Mr. Corrigan advised my bringing Mr. O'Farrell into the case. Everybody was lovely to me. Everybody seemed to want to help Eugenia and me. You don't know how many letters I have had, sympathetic kind, all of them. Then these parasites dropped off. They knew I meant business, and they were afraid. Oh, I'd have fought to the end. I suppose they knew Mr. McIntyre would fight, too. However, it is over with."

"I regret the notoriety this thing has caused us, but it could not have been avoided. Some people have been good enough to tell me I was doing a public service. Perhaps so. If I have called the attention of the mothers of this city to the dangers that await their daughters, I am happy."

Eugenia has told me how she met

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Al Davis and that crowd. She did it innocently enough. She went into Murray's one afternoon without my knowledge. There she met Al Davis and Bonnie Glass, and thought them most charming people. Later, when she went again, she met a married woman who was most charming. Gradually she got to know the whole crowd and got to running around with them. She thought it good fun.

"The first thing she knew she was in the midst of things. Then she began to feel the need of money. The men that travel in that set do not think anything of letting their women companions pay the bills. She did not know enough to see that this was wrong. She thought it Bohemian, I suppose. That is the whole story. I suppose it was in large part the desire of a girl who had been carefully brought up to see what they call a bit of life, not realizing the danger she was running."

"Oh, if the mothers of this town only knew they would rise in their might and smash these dens! They would drive these cattle into the river! They would demolish these sinks of iniquity. That is what they would do. They don't know what is going on. They don't realize that the supposedly decent tango leads to something else. They don't know the traps laid for young girls in this town. I did not. But I had to learn. I hope they will be spared that bitter lesson."

"They should know, they should inquire who and what frequent the places their children are permitted to visit."

Warning to Mothers.

"It is awful the things I have learned exist. I cannot tell them all. I do not know them all, neither can you tell them all; but the mothers should know; they should be careful. New

York is no fit place to permit a girl to run around in without knowing what she is going. The sin lays in taking anything for granted, in assuming a place is all right without knowing it, and assuming that a girl's companions are all right and just like the rest of those with whom she runs about with."

After Eugenia had dressed she and Mrs. Kelly went for a drive. In the evening they dined with friends.

No effort was made by Mrs. Kelly yesterday to question Miss Eugenia as to what had become of her jewelry and to what extent she had borrowed money. The clearing up of those details has been left to a later date and to Val O'Farrell. The latter has a pretty clear idea as to where the jewelry is pawned. It is probable that the pieces will be redeemed without court action and without loss to the pawnbrokers.

The matter of the account in the Produce Exchange Bank will also be further investigated, and the holders of notes traced, so that the estate will be ready for them if they are ever presented for payment. As made by a minor, they are worthless, but that fact may not prevent an effort to collect. In this work Miss Kelly will undoubtedly assist her mother, when she is sufficiently rested to take the matter up.

The closing of the case is a distinct relief to at least two young married women who have travelled in the Broadway set which Miss Kelly has abandoned. Both of these were wealthy men and the evidence that would have been presented in court would have linked their names with those of Broadway denizens in such a way that it was highly probable divorce proceedings would have resulted. These may come yet, but the present at least the danger is passed.

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